



State of California  
Natural Resources Agency  
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	MEU Academy Training Ridgewood Ranch		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sec. 16, T17N, R13W MDBM	COUNTY	Mendocino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Jeanette Pedersen, MEU Environmental Coordinator 17501 North Highway 101	PHONE	(707) 459-7452
ADDRESS	Willits, CA 95490		

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is intended as skills training for MEU Firefighter Academy participants. The specific training activities include mobile attack using fire engines, progressive hoselays with lengths between 600 feet to 800 feet maximum, fusee and drip torch techniques, and handline construction. The extent of soil disturbance is limited to handline construction using hand tools. The handline widths proposed will be primarily one-foot wide. There will be a limited construction of four-foot wide handlines. No live fire will be used during this training. The environmental setting is grass and brushland on gentle terrain. The training area will cover an approximately one-acre area.

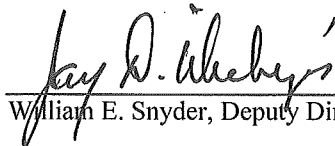
### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land  
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):  
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)  
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))  
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The Class 4 Categorical Exemption §15304 is appropriate as the proposed project will result in only minor alterations to the land and will not have a significant effect on the environment. Only minor vegetation and soil disturbance is proposed to occur. California Natural Diversity Database maintained by the California Department of Fish and Game was consulted and the Biological Resources discussion in an existing management plan that covers the training area was reviewed. Also a seasonally appropriate site visit was performed to evaluate the presence of listed plant species. None were observed. A CAL FIRE archaeologist determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review (including records check, archaeological survey and Native American Notification) under EXEMPT PRACTICES #24 (Disturbed Areas) and #28 (Hand lines) as these are described in "Archaeological Review Procedures for CDF Projects".

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

for   
William E. Snyder, Deputy Director

Date

